

Hampden Public Safety
Citizen Advisory Committee

Minutes

1-19-17

- Committee members present: Rev. David Nicol, Jamie Sinclair, Terry McAvoy, Daryle Carter, Michael Allen, Nancy Fenders and Cameo Dunton. Also present was PSD Joe Rogers, Sgt. Chris Bailey, FF/Paramedic Joe Dunton and FF/Paramedic Jared Lebares.
- Welcomed new committee member: Cole Lapointe-Hampden Academy Student
- Special Agent Joseph Burke of the Maine Drug Enforcement Agency discussed drug trends and presented information on Methamphetamine Labs.
- Committee members discussed issues in their neighborhood.
 - The Town Council has been discussing the Recreational Marijuana Initiative and has decided to prohibit retail sales and social clubs. Cultivating, processing and testing will be allowed.
 - A member discussed the importance of having a policy for the use of Marijuana by law enforcement officers. PSD Rogers has received information from the Attorney General's Office on this issue. It is recommended that a policy should forbid the recreational use of Marijuana due to its prohibition under federal law. PSD Rogers also stated the same prohibition will apply to firefighters and paramedics as well. Medical Marijuana becomes more difficult and would require further discussion.
 - A member stated vehicle mufflers have been quiet on Rt. 1A. It was suggested the new signage for engine brakes may be the cause.
- Employee profile was FF/Paramedic Joe Dunton. Joe introduced himself and discussed his duties as Chaplain and point person for public safety vehicle maintenance. FF/Paramedic Jared Lebares also introduced himself and discussed his duties.

- Public Safety trends were discussed. Between 11-1-16 and 1-11-17, the police department received three elderly related complaints, four burglaries, and nine thefts. Approximately 10 fraud related complaints were also received. The complaints involved Craig's List scams, credit card fraud and an attempt to fill a fictitious prescription. The ambulance responded to 129 calls and the fire department responded to 51 calls. Traffic crash data from 2014-2016 was also discussed.
- The strategic planning process is ongoing. Members were encouraged to forward goal and objective ideas to Sgt. Bailey.
- Discussed the importance of proper lighting, specifically in areas where crimes are being committed.
- Discussed the Sand Buckets for Seniors Program in Auburn. Auburn Public Services employees deliver a free bucket of sand to seniors living in Auburn. The program is supported by The Home Depot and Lowe's.
- Discussed two student organizations (National Honor Society and Key Club) at Hampden Academy who are willing to assist senior citizens with shoveling and other duties.
- Discussed resources available in town to assist citizens in need. The Hampden Food Cupboard, Help for Hampden Fund and the Hampden division of the Salvation Army are operated through the Hampden Congregational Church. Citizens can call 862-5248 and receive assistance with food, oil, clothing and other basic needs. Rev. Nicol is in the process of obtaining a list of resources in the Bangor area. The list will be given to town officials to disseminate to citizens in need.
- PSD Rogers will speak with the public works director about training related to identifying containers used for Methamphetamine Labs.
- A member suggested education to the public on how to identify credit card readers. Ex. banks and gas stations.
- A member suggested education to senior citizens on what to do in case of a fall. Some senior citizens may be unaware of how to access help. It was suggested to place an article in the next Hampden Highlights publication.

The next meeting is scheduled for April 6, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. at Hampden Public Safety.